



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of Information

Press Service



Release - Immediate.

March 26, 1927.

REEDBIRDS, OR BOBOLINKS,  
NO LONGER PERMITTED TO BE KILLED

By an order of the Secretary of Agriculture it is no longer permitted to kill reedbirds, or ricebirds, known in the North as bobolinks. In 1919, owing to the serious depredations of bobolinks on the rice crops of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, permission was granted by the Secretary, under authority of the migratory-bird treaty act, administered by the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture to kill these birds in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, the District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida for the protection of rice growers. This permission is now revoked.

Under the new order, a person or members of his immediate family or bona-fide employees, owning or leasing lands in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, or Florida on which rice is being grown, may shoot bobolinks, or ricebirds, only when authorized by a special permit issued by the Secretary of Agriculture and countersigned by the chief official in charge of the enforcement of the fish and game laws of the State in which the permit is effective, and only during the period from August 16 to November 15, inclusive, on rice fields where such birds are seriously injuring the crops. The birds so killed may be consumed as food, but may not be sold.

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